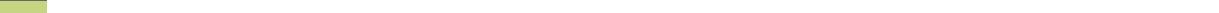




Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)

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06 Jan 2024 1645 GMT

SFI: **153** SN: **128**A-Index: **5**K-Index: **0**X-Ray: **C1.4**304A: **152.6** @ SEMPtn Flx: **1840**Ecl Flx: **42300**Aurora: **1/n=1.99**Mag (Bz): **-0.0**Solar Wind: **335.2**Geomag Field **INACTIVE**Sig Noise Lvl **50-51**

Current Solar Image

<http://www.n0nbh.com>

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Solar data courtesy of:

Solar Data Banners & Widgets

The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 203, January 5, 2024

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Articles will remain in *The Bulletin* while active, but with a 5-week maximum.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section, updated daily; and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at <http://www.arrl.org>

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration's [Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)

DX News

5A, LIBYA. Abubaker, **5A1AL** has been active on 80 meters using FT8 around 0500 UTC. QSL to [5A1AL](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 1 January 4, 2024] (0105-0209)

6O, SOMALIA. Team **6O3T** will be active from Somalia sometime in early 2024. Plans are to operate SSB, CW and digital modes for a couple of weeks, with a focus on the low bands and 6 meters. Details are expected in due course.

-[425DXN # 1703 December 23, 2023] (0105-0126)

8P, BARBADOS. Chris, WA7RAR will be active again as **8P9CB** from Barbados (NA-021) on **January 10th to 25th**. Most of his operations will be portable at various locations, especially POTA sites. He will be QRV on 20-10m CW and SSB. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [WA7RAR](#).

-[425DXN # 1705 January 6, 2024] (0105-0126)

9A, CROATIA. Throughout 2024 Tom, 9A2AA will use **9A67AA** to mark his 67 years of activity on the amateur radio bands. QSL via [9A2AA](#).
-[425DXN # 1705 January 6, 2024] (0105-0209)

9A, CROATIA. Special callsign **9A1ØØRKZ** celebrates the 100th anniversary since Radioklub Zagreb was founded (March 24, 1924). Look for activity throughout 2024. QSL via [9A1ADE](#).
-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0202)

9N, NEPAL. Hoping for "some decent low band runs", Robert, **9N7AA** has rented a bungalow over the winter period. It is located "at the edge of Kathmandu valley but much higher, with a clear shot from 270-90 degrees, and far enough not to suffer from the crazy man-made noise I have in Kathmandu". He will be there **on December 8th for two nights** and **then during "selected weekends" until the end of February**. Bookmark <https://www.qrz.com/db/9N7AA> for updates.

-[425DXN # 1701 December 9, 2023] (1208-0112)

A3, TONGA. Darren, VK4MAP is QRV as **A31DJ/p** from Eua Island (OC-049) **until January 11th**. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL direct to [VK4MAP](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 1 January 4, 2024] (0105-0112)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. Allan, **VKØAW**, continues to operate from Mawson Station (AN-016) **until February**. QSL via [EB7DX](#).
-[DXNL # 2387 January 3, 2024] (0105-0202)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. Norbert, VK5MQ was active as **VKØAI** from Macquarie Island between late April 2018 and late March 2019. He is now using the same callsign from Casey Station, Antarctica, as time permits. On December 25th-26th he was briefly active from a deep-field camp established at Edgeworth David Base in the Bunger Hills, 450 kilometers west of Casey. QSL via [VK5MQ](#).
-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0112)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. David, VK2JDS, has reached the Davis Antarctic Base (VKFF-0568 Park) and operates as **VKØDS** during his spare time. QRV on HF and on 2m and 23cm via EME. He stays **until November 2024**. QSL direct via [VK2JDS](#), LoTW.
-[DXNL # 2385 December 20, 2023] (1222-0126)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. A member of the 69th Russian Antarctic Expedition, Igor, RQ8K will be stationed at Progress Station, Antarctica **until the end of April 2025**. In his spare time, he is active as **RI1ANE**.
-[425DXN # 1702 December 16, 2023] (1215-0119)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. Juan, LU8DBS is QRV as **L36Z**, **LU1ZV**, and **LU8DBS/Z** from Base Esperanza. Activity is in his spare time on 80 to 10 meters using SSB, PSK31, and FT8. His **length of stay is unknown**. QSL via [LU4DXU](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 49 December 7, 2023] (1208-0112)

CN, MOROCCO. Yannick, CN2YD is QRV as **CN2YD/p** from Molitor Island (AF-065) **until March 15th**. QSL via [F6FYD](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 52 December 28, 2023] (1229-0202)

DL, GERMANY. Special callsign **DM24EHF** (special DOK EHF24) operates around the Men's EHF Euro 2024 Handball Championship from **January 6th to 28th**. QSL via bureau or [DL2VFR](#).
-[DXNL # 2387 January 3, 2024] (0105-0202)

DL, GERMANY. Special callsigns **DB1ØØFK**, **DC1ØØFK**, **DD1ØØFK**, **DF1ØØFK**, **DL1ØØFK**, **DM1ØØFK**, **DQ1ØØFK** and **DR1ØØFK** - as well as **DM1ØØMW** and

DR1ØØPE - will be active from **January 1 to May 31** to celebrate the 100th anniversary since the formation of the Deutsche Funk-Kartell (January 24, 1924), a federation of clubs of radio enthusiasts during the early days of amateur radio in Germany. QSL "only digital" (via LoTW, eQSL, etc.). An award will be available, see <https://100fk.de/> for information.
-[425DXN # 1703 December 23, 2023] (1229-0126)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of January 5, 2024:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. 3Y/B	Bouvet Island
2. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	12. ZS8	Prince Edward & Marion Islands
3. CEØX	San Felix Islands	13. KH4	Midway Island
4. BV9P	Pratas Island	14. VKØM	Macquarie Island
5. KH7K	Kure Island	15. PYØS	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
6. KH3	Johnston Island	16. PYØT	Trindade & Martim Vaz Islands
7. FT/G	Glorioso Island	17. KP5	Desecheo Island
8. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	18. VP8S	South Sandwich Islands
9. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	19. KH5	Palmyra & Jarvis Islands
10. YVØ	Aves Island	20. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[KØCF January 5, 2024] (1229-0119)

E6, NIUE. Sigfrido, IW9FMD is working in Alofi and is active in his spare time as **E6S** on the H/VHF bands. QSL via [IT9YVO](https://it9yvo.com).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 49 December 7, 2023] (1208-0112)

EA, SPAIN. Look for **EG59GURU/p** to be QRV from various SOTA locations in Spain on **January 8th to 21st**. This activity is a tribute to Jose-Antonio Gurutzarri "Guru" Jauregi (EA2IF), an outstanding personality of the Summits On The Air program, who passed away in 2022. See <https://sites.google.com/view/ea2if-memorial> for more information; QSL cards will not be provided.

-[425DXN # 1705 January 6, 2024] (0105-0126)

EX, ARMENIA. Dima, RX3DPK is QRV as **EX/RX3DPK** for **all of 2024**. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using FT8. QSL to [RX3DPK](https://rx3dpk.com).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 1 January 4, 2024] (0105-0209)

F, FRANCE. Jeff, F4IIQ will be active as **TM13ØSMK** on **January 5th to 9th** to commemorate the 130th anniversary since the birth of St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe. QSL via [F4IIQ](https://f4iiq.com). Born on January 8, 1894, Father Kolbe (SP3RN) was killed on August 14, 1941, at Auschwitz.

-[425DXN # 1703 December 23, 2023] (0105-0112)

F, FRANCE. Michel, F8GGZ is QRV with special event call sign **TM7ØØMP** until **January 12th** to commemorate the 700th anniversary of the death of explorer Marco Polo. QSL to [F8GGZ](https://f8ggz.com).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 1 January 4, 2024] (0105-0112)

FJ, SAINT BARTHELEMY. Phil, K2LIO is QRV as **FJ4WEB** and plans to be QRV until **August 15, 2024**. QSL to [K2LIO](https://k2lio.com).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 51 December 21, 2023] (1222-0126)

FM, MARTINIQUE. Francis, F6BWJ will be active again as **FM/F6BWJ** from Martinique (NA-107) **starting on January 11th for two months**. He will operate CW on 80-10 meters. QSL via LoTW, or via the bureau to [F6BWJ](https://f6bwj.com).

-[425DXN # 1705 January 6, 2024] (0105-0209)

FW, WALLIS & FUTUNA IS. Martin, **FW4AT** is QRV on 40 to 6 meters using FT8. QSL to [FW4AT](https://fw4at.com).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 51 December 21, 2023] (1222-0126)

FY, FRENCH GUIANA. Pierre-Jean, F4GPK is QRV as **TO2FY** from Kourou until January 16th. Activity is on the HF bands using only SSB. QSL direct to [F4GPK](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 52 December 28, 2023] (1229-0119)

G, ENGLAND. The special event station **GB4NY** will be active from December 27th to January 7th. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#), qrz.com.
-[DXNL # 2386 December 27, 2023] (1229-0112)

GW, WALES. Kev, GWØPUH will be active as **GB9KW** on January 2nd to 28th using vintage equipment manufactured by KW Electronics Ltd during the 1960s and 1970s. Main activity will be over the "KW Weekend" (January 6th to 7th). Other special callsigns are expected to be on the air, e.g. **GB2KW** (Scotland), **GB4KW** & **GB8KW** (England).
-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0202)

HB, SWITZERLAND. Members of the Zurich City Police Radio Amateur Club (HB9SP) will be active as **HB2ØSP** throughout 2024 to celebrate their club's 20th anniversary. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW, ClubLog and qrz.com; do not send any card via the bureau.
-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0202)

HH, HAITI. Members of the Radio Club d'Haiti will be QRV as **HH22ØY** from January 1st to 31st to celebrate the 200th anniversary since the declaration of the former colony's independence. QSL via [N200](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 52 December 28, 2023] (1229-0202)

HR, HONDURAS. Alex, K6VHF will be active again as **K6VHF/HR9** from Roatan Island (NA-057) on January 3rd to 10th. This time he will be joined by Paul, NOØT and Bill, WTØDX. Plans are to operate digital modes, SSB and CW on 80-6 meters, and to participate in the ARRL RTTY Roundup (January 6th-7th). QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW, or via [K6VHF](#).
-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0112)

I, ITALY. Members of ARI Padova will be active as **II3PUP** on January 7th to 14th. The special callsign's suffix is an acronym for Patavium Urbs picta (Padua the Painted City), which refers to the fourteenth-century fresco cycles that have been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list since 2021. QSL via [IQ3WW](#); QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW, ClubLog and qrz.com.
-[425DXN # 1703 December 23, 2023] (0105-0119)

JA, JAPAN. Take, JI3DST will be active again as **JS6RRR** from the Miyako Islands (AS-079) beginning January 5th until April 1st. He will be QRV also as **JI3DST/6, JJ5RBH/6** and **JR8YLY/6** on SSB and CW, as well as **JI3DST/p, JJ5RBH/p** and **JR8YLY/p** on FT8. QSOs will be made available for ClubLog and LoTW Matching on the IOTA website.
-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0202)

K, UNITED STATES. The Straight Key Century Club's annual on-air event, commemorating the club's founding in 2006 and celebrating the original instruments of early radiotelegraphy (straight key, bug and cootie keys), will run on January 2nd to 31st. Look for **K3Y** to be aired from the ten US call areas (**K3Y/Ø** through **K3Y/9**), plus **/KH6, /KL7** and **/KP4**. Information on the event and QSL instructions can be found on <https://skccgroup.com/k3y/k3y.php>.
-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0202)

K, UNITED STATES. He cannot provide specific dates, however Matt, AF2F will be visiting Long Beach Island (NA-111) "quite frequently on business throughout the month of December, probably extending into January with a week-long break for holidays". He will be active as **AF2F/2** on 10 and 12 meter CW, possibly with some FT8 later. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).
-[425DXN # 1701 December 9, 2023] (1208-0112)

LZ, BULGARIA. Radio Club Blagovestnik (LZ1KCP) will use six special callsigns during 2024 to honor as many different Orthodox saints: **LZ235IR** (January and February), **LZ543BN** (March and April), **LZ44IZ** (May and June), **LZ302IT** (July and August), **LZ1515IW** (September and October), and **LZ311PA** (November and December). QSL via the bureau or direct to P.O. Box 36, 4300 Karlovo, Bulgaria. Details on the "All Saints 2024 Award" can be found at <https://www.lz1kcp.com/>.
-[425DXN # 1705 January 6, 2024] (0105-0209)

OE, AUSTRIA. Christian, OE5CCN will be active as **OE24BI** from **January 1st until June 30th** from the city of Bad Ischl, one of the European Capitals of Culture for 2024. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau and LoTW.
-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0202)

OE, AUSTRIA. Special event station **OE1ØØRADIO** is QRV during **all of 2024** to celebrate the centennial of radio broadcasting in Austria. QSL via operators' instructions.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 52 December 28, 2023] (1229-0202)

OE, AUSTRIA. Special callsign **OE4ØWO** celebrates the 40th anniversary of the club Wolfsberg ADL 084 **until April 4th**. QSL via [OE8XDU](https://www.oe8xdu.com).
-[DXNL # 2386 December 27, 2023] (1229-0202)

OK, CZECH REPUBLIC. The radio club OK1KVK celebrates its 70th anniversary with the callsign **OL7ØKVK**. QSL via [OK6RP](https://www.ok6rp.com).
-[DXNL # 2385 December 20, 2023] (1222-0119)

ON, BELGIUM. Special callsign **OT65BXE** will be used by members of UBA Section Bruxelles-Est to celebrate their club's 65th anniversary on **January 1st to 31st**. QSL via [ON5UB](https://www.on5ub.com).
-[425DXN # 1705 January 6, 2024] (0105-0202)

ON, BELGIUM. The Radio-Club de Luettich (ON5VL) celebrates its 100th anniversary with the callsign **OR1ØØLGE** **during 2024**. QRV on 160-6m (CW, SSB, FT4/8). QSL via [ON6YH](https://www.on6yh.com), ClubLog, LoTW, eQSL.
-[DXNL # 2386 December 27, 2023] (1229-0202)

P4, ARUBA. Mathias, DL4MM will be active again as **P4/DL4MM** and **P40AA** (used for FT8/FT4 and during the CQ WW 160-Meter CW Contest on January 26th-28th) from Aruba (SA-036) on **January 19th to 31st**. He will operate CW, SSB and digital modes on 160-10 meters. QSLs via [ClubLog's QRS](https://www.clublog.org/qrs), LoTW, or via [DL4MM](https://www.dl4mm.com).
-[425DXN # 1705 January 6, 2024] (0119-0202)

PJ5, SABA & ST. EUSTATIUS. Janusz, SP9FIH plans to be QRV as **PJ5/SP9FIH** from **January 11th to March 3rd**. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters, and possibly 60 meters, using SSB, RTTY, FT8, and FT4. QSL via LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 1 January 4, 2024] (0105-0209)

PY, BRAZIL. The callsign to be used from Tinhare Island (SA-080) on January 10th-11th is **PV6T** (not ZZ2F as previously announced). Look for activity on 40, 20, 15 and 10m SSB and FT8. QSL via [PP2LA](https://www.pp2la.com).
-[425DXN # 1705 January 6, 2024] (0105-0112)

S5, SLOVENIA. Special event station **S524PMC** will be active from **December 8th to January 8, 2024**, to promote the PMC Contest, sponsored by the Radio Club Slovenj Gradec (S59DCD). The International Association of Peace Messenger Cities was established in 1988 to recognize and encourage the role and responsibility cities have in creating a culture of peace. The PMC Contest, promoting contacts between stations located in the Peace Messenger Cities and the rest of the world, will be held on **January 6th-7th**. Complete information can be found on <https://www.s59dc.si/index.php/si/>.
-[425DXN # 1699 November 25, 2023] (1208-0112)

SM, SWEDEN. Special callsign **SK1ØØFRK** celebrates the 100th anniversary since Falu Radioklubb (SK4AO) was founded. Look for activity from **January 1st until December 31, 2024**. A very special diploma will be available - see <https://www.qrz.com/db/SK100FRK>.-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0202)

SM, SWEDEN. Special callsign **SK5ØB** is for members of the Botkyrka Radioamatörer to celebrate their club's golden jubilee **throughout 2024**. The club was founded on January 18, 1974. QSL via the bureau to [SKØHB](#).-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0202)

T32, EAST KIRIBATI. The Rebel DX Group's **T32TT** operation from Kiritimati/Christmas Island (OC-024), East Kiribati has been extended **until January 12th**. Bookmark <https://www.facebook.com/rebeldxgroup/> for updates. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).-[425DXN # 1703 December 23, 2023] (1222-0112)

TR, GABON. Roland, F8EN will be active again as **TR8CR** from Gabon from **December 28th until the end of February**. He will operate CW on 30-10m. QSL via F6AJA, logsearch on <http://LesNouvellesDX.fr/voirlogs.php>.-[425DXN # 1701 December 9, 2023] (1222-0126)

UA, EUROPEAN RUSSIA. Special callsigns **R2Ø24NY** and **UE24NY** will be active from **December 30th to January 8th** for the annual "Russian New Year" radio marathon organized by the Miller DX Club. QSLs via [RQ7L](#).-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0112)

V5, NAMIBIA. Eric, F5LCX will be active as **V5/F5LCX** from Namibia from **December 28th to January 11th**. This will be a family trip, and he plans to operate both mobile and fixed for a few hours daily, probably during his evening hours. QSL via LoTW.-[425DXN # 1702 December 16, 2023] (1222-0112)

VE, CANADA. Jean, VE2JCW, will be active with the callsign **VE2PEACE** during **January**. QSL only direct to [VE2JCW](#).-[DXNL # 2387 January 3, 2024] (0105-0202)

VP9, BERMUDA. Paul, EI6LC, signs **VP9KF** from Bermuda (NA-005) on **January 8th to 22nd**. He will operate CW only on 160-10 meters and will participate in the North American QSO Party (<https://ncjweb.com/naqp/>) QSL direct to Paul Evans, 15 Watch Knob Lane, Swannanoa NC 28778, USA. He does not use LoTW.-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0126)

VU, INDIA. Once again, the West Bengal Radio Club (VU2WB) will provide assistance during the Ganga Sagar Mela on Sagar Island (AS-153). This is the annual gathering of Hindu pilgrims to take a holy dip in the Ganges, where the river merges with the Bay of Bengal. Expect some activity on the HF bands as **AT24GSM** on **January 9th to 16th**. QSL via operator's instructions; plans are to upload QSOs to ClubLog.-[425DXN # 1705 January 6, 2024] (0105-0119)

VU, INDIA. Operators VU3GWN, VU3CIQ, VU3TBU and VU3UZD will be QRV with special event call sign **AT3POG** from Karnataka from **January 1st to March 31st**. QSL via [VU3GWN](#).-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 52 December 28, 2023] (1229-0202)

VU, INDIA. A group of Indian operators are QRV as **AT8T4S** until **January 24th** from the historic city of Palakkad. QSL via [VU3WEW](#).-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 51 December 21, 2023] (1222-0126)

VU, INDIA. Jose, VU2JOS, celebrates his 50th year in amateur radio with the callsign **AT5ØJOS**. QSL via [VU2JOS](#).-[DXNL # 2385 December 20, 2023] (1222-0112)

VU, INDIA. Special callsign **AT3ØIIH** marks the 30th anniversary of the Indian Institute of Hams, and educational organization. QSL via bureau, direct, eQSL.
-[DXNL # 2385 December 20, 2023] (1222-0119)

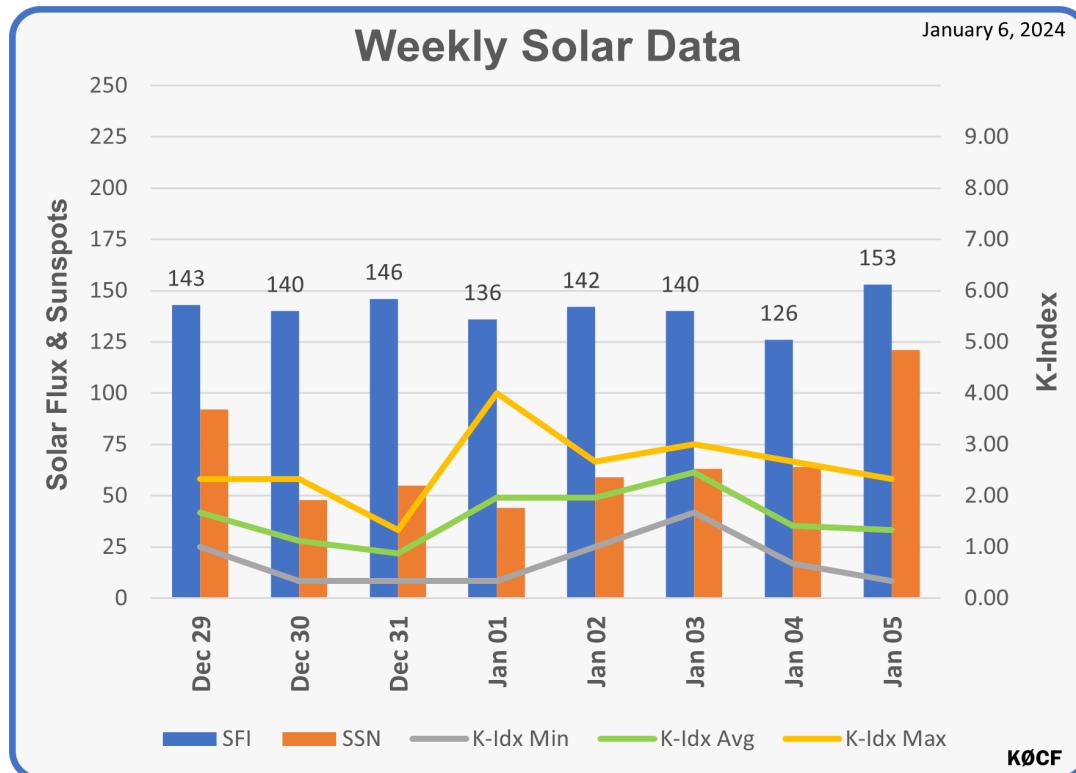
XW, LAOS. Vincent, F4BKV is QRV as **XW4KV** until mid-2024. Activity is mostly on 15 and 10 meters using FT8. QSL to [F4BKV](#), [ClubLog's QRSS](#), LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 50 December 14, 2023] (1215-0119)

YO, ROMANIA. Special callsign **YR8XMAS** is currently active and remains available on the bands until January 10th. QSL only via eQSL or qrz.com.
-[DXNL # 2384 December 13, 2023] (1215-0112)

ZD7, ST. HELENA. Alex, DL1PM and Rob, HB9ETR have been active as **ZD7/DG1PM** and **ZD7/ HB9ETR** since December 27th. They remotely operate ZD7CA's station.
"Previously, ZD7 had Internet access solely through a costly satellite connection", Chris says, "but with the new undersea cable, high-bandwidth connections make such achievements possible".
-[425DXN # 1704 December 30, 2023] (1229-0126)

ZD7, ST. HELENA. Chris, HB9FIY and his wife Agata will be QRV as **ZD7CA** and **ZD7AA**, respectively, from December 16th to January 14th. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via [EA5GL](#), LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 50 December 14, 2023] (1215-0119)

Propagation (Updated daily)



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (K-Idx) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

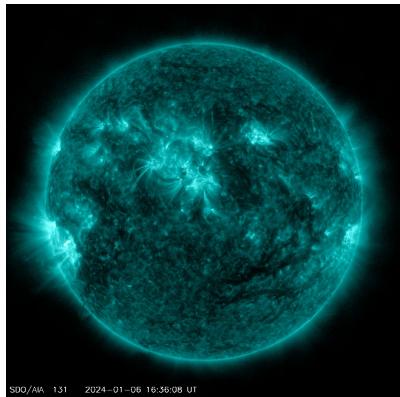
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S.

Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wavelength of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Friday, December 29th through yesterday, January 5th.

The average solar flux was down 19 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 153 on Friday, January 5th, following a low of 126 on January 4th.

The average sunspot count was down by 32 for the week, peaking at 121 on Friday, January 5th after a weekly low of 44 on January 1st.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 2.6 with a maximum of 4.0 on Monday, January 1st, resulting in generally quiet geomagnetic conditions.

Solar flare activity since December 29th has been moderate with 7 major flares, the largest of which was a major X 5.0 event on Sunday, December 31st.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Friday, December 29th through 1431 UTC, January 6th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Jan 04	0155	M 3.8
2	Jan 04	0116	M 1.1
3	Jan 02	1830	M 1.1
4	Jan 01	1225	M 4.7
5	Jan 01	0854	M 2.3
6	Dec 31	2155	X 5.0
7	Dec 31	1912	M 1.0

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Jan 6	35%	10%	155
Jan 7	35%	10%	160

Jan 8	35%	10%	165
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Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on January 1, 2024).

Date	Flux	Kp
Jan 6	150	2
Jan 7	150	2
Jan 8	150	3
Jan 9	155	3

Date	Flux	Kp
Jan 10	155	3
Jan 11	160	2
Jan 12	155	2
Jan 13	155	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Jan 14	155	2
Jan 15	160	2
Jan 16	165	2
Jan 17	160	2

Higns for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 234 on January 15, 2023.

Sunspots: 227 on July 11, 2023.

Favorite Propagation web sites

Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map: <https://prop.kc2g.com/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.net/>

<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters.

However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday 0000Z is Sunday 6:00 PM local time.

Contest	Start UTC	End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday 0000Z	0100Z	Rules
CWT (CW Ops Test)	Wednesday 1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Wednesday 1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday 0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday 0700Z	0800Z	
WRT (Weekly RTTY Test)	Friday 0145Z	0215Z	Rules

Full Calendar

Contest	Start	End	Web Site
ARRL RTTY Roundup	Jan 6 1800Z	Jan 7 2400Z	Rules
ARRL Kids Day	Jan 6 1800Z	Jan 6 2359Z	Rules
YB DX Contest	Jan 13 0000Z	Jan 13 2359Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, CW	Jan 13 1800Z	Jan 14 0600Z	Rules
Hungarian DX Contest	Jan 20 1200Z	Jan 21 1200Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, SSB	Jan 20 1800Z	Jan 21 0600Z	Rules
ARRL January VHF Contest	Jan 20 1900Z	Jan 22 0359Z	Rules
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	Jan 26 2200Z	Jan 28 2159Z	Rules
BARTG RTTY Sprint	Jan 27 1200Z	Jan 28 1200Z	Rules
Winter Field Day	Jan 27 1700Z	Jan 28 1700Z	Rules
Vermont QSO Party	Feb 3 0000Z	Feb 4 2400Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	Feb 3 0001Z	Feb 4 2359Z	Rules
Mexico RTTY International Contest	Feb 3 1200Z	Feb 4 2359Z	Rules
Minnesota QSO Party	Feb 3 1400Z	Feb 3 2400Z	Rules
British Columbia QSO Party	Feb 3 1600Z	Feb 4 2400Z	Rules
North American Sprint, CW	Feb 4 0000Z	Feb 4 0359Z	Rules
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	Feb 10 0000Z	Feb 11 2400Z	Rules
ARRL School Club Roundup	Feb 12 1300Z	Feb 16 2359Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	Feb 17 0000Z	Feb 18 2400Z	Rules
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	Feb 23 2200Z	Feb 25 2159Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Feb 24 1800Z	Feb 25 0600Z	Rules
North Carolina QSO Party	Feb 25 1500Z	Feb 26 0100Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	Mar 2 0000Z	Mar 3 2400Z	Rules
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	Mar 2 1800Z	Mar 3 1359Z	Rules
YB DX RTTY Contest	Mar 9 0000Z	Mar 9 2359Z	Rules

Oklahoma QSO Party	Mar 9	1400Z	Mar 10	2100Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Mar 9	1500Z	Mar 10	1500Z	Rules
Idaho QSO Party	Mar 9	1900Z	Mar 10	1900Z	Rules
North American Sprint, RTTY	Mar 10	0000Z	Mar 10	0359Z	Rules
Wisconsin QSO Party	Mar 10	1800Z	Mar 11	0100Z	Rules
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	Mar 16	0200Z	Mar 18	0200Z	Rules
Russian DX Contest	Mar 16	1200Z	Mar 17	1200Z	Rules
North American SSB Sprint Contest	Mar 24	0000Z	Mar 24	0400Z	Rules
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	Mar 30	0000Z	Mar 31	2400Z	Rules
Louisiana QSO Party	Apr 6	1400Z	Apr 7	0200Z	Rules
SP DX Contest	Apr 6	1500Z	Apr 7	1500Z	Rules

-[Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)]

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